

Extracts.

THE EVENING BREEZE.
Sweet evening breeze, thy gentle tongue
Sighs thro' the rustling foliage
Soft as the murmur of a passion strong
To breathe love's maiden vows
It falls upon my charmed ear
Like some sweet foreign strain
Whom meaning, that I love to hear,
I seek to trace in vain.
What dost thou say, sweet music say,
Thou gentle breeze of even?
Does it lament the golden day
That fades from under heaven?
And yet, not for the dying hours
Melancholy could I sigh
When evening brings its drowsy hours
And thy beloved sigh.

A TRAGEDY.
The portraits similar from the walls of
the many picture galleries open to the
public of European capitals, do not pre-
sent a rule, suggest a history of passion
and despair. A collection is, however,
on view in Paris, of paintings by Prudon,
among which may be seen a portrait of the
heroine of a tragic tale as any devised by
the most sensational novelist, that of a
woman slain by a chance word. Among
Prudon's best works are those inspired by
Mlle. Mayer, a lady who devoted her life,
and most of her means, to promoting the
comfort and fostering the genius of the
artist, whose domestic life was a most un-
happy one. Matters remained in this position
for many years. Mlle. Mayer no longer
young, and no longer wealthy, was
dreading the simultaneous advent of old age
and poverty, when news came that Madame
Prudon was dying. She required this in-
telligence at first in silence, when turning to
Prudon, who read the letter to her, she in-
quired of him whether, if he became a wid-
ower, he should marry again. Heaven
forbid! exclaimed the artist, thinking only
of the misery he had endured with his wife.
Mlle. Mayer interpreted this speech un-
favourably to herself and committed suicide
that very day.—Edo.

A RAPPED BARBER.
A travelling friend of the Observer was at
Rochester the other day, and he dropped into
a barber-shop near the Oshorn House to
get shaved. After he had been deprived of the
useless hairs upon his face, and a portion
of his skin, by a garrulous and clumsy
knave of the razor, the tonsorial artist
tossed the ends of his hair lightly, and the
following dialogue ensued: "Here is a cut!"
"Victim—No, it was cut last week, and I'm
in a hurry." "Victim (looking at the clock)—
"You have plenty of time before the train goes
past." "Victim—'I'm not going East!"
"Barber—'Oh, then you are in no
hurry. Had your dinner?" "Victim (rather
gruffly)—'Yes!" Barber (still toying
with our friend's waving locks)—"What
way are you going?" "Victim—'West! I've
ever got out of this place!" Barber—
"How far?" "Victim—'Buffalo!" Barber—
"Oh, ho! Buffalo, eh? You can't
get your hair cut decently in Buf-
falo. There is only one good barber there,
and he's drunk half the time. Shall I
cut you?" "This train don't leave here for half an
hour." "Victim (thoroughly enraged)—
"Look here, you wooden-headed unskilful
and listen—I don't want my hair cut! I
don't want a shampoo! I don't want toni-
c! I don't want any more of your tongue,
information, or impudence! I don't want you to finish my hair, and
if you don't clear your infernal head,
box and let me out of this chair I'll saw your
thick head off with one of your dull, auto-
mating razors! Do you understand that?"
The astonished nuisance comprehended.

A ROMANTIC STORY.
A little Italian woman, with a child in her
arms (says the New York Graphic) hurried
through the gate of the Roosevelt-street
ferry-house, and a moment later was scarcely
discernible in the dark shadow of the corner
in which she sought shelter. She was light
clad, and the major portion of the thin,
bright-coloured shawl that covered her head
and shoulders was draped lovingly about
the baby in her arms. Her dress of calico
was worn, faded, and patched in places until
the original pattern was little more than a
patch itself; yet there were no tattered ends
or rags. The child nestled close to the mo-
ther and babbled in a subdued manner, scarcely
audible a few feet away. When the
boat entered the slip the mother was the first
to go on board. Well-dressed young men
and woman, and children clothed in rich
warm texture, filled the cabin, but the little
Italian woman attracted no attention, but
remained crouched in the further corner of
the forward cabin, probably unseen by more
than a few persons immediately surrounding
her. Hardly had the boat left the slip than
the cluster incident to a public conveyance
was arrested by the singing of the first lines
of the ballad, "Kathleen Mavourneen." A
moment later men ceased reading their
papers and listened. All eyes were turned
to the insignificant figure in the corner.
When the last words were sung a perfect
storm of applause burst forth, and the
woman sang out of our own native air,
a ballad plaintive and touching, of one
whose home and friends were far away, while
she, the child-widow, mournfully called on the
sea to give her back dead. Her voice mar-
vellously sweet and clear, and the air, re-
verberated as it was with subdued stress, was
very effective. Several women sobbed aloud,
while there were not a few men present who
coughed suspiciously, and turned their faces
aside—for a moment, using their handker-
chief very energetically. That woman left
the cabin richer by a score of dollars, for as
she glided through the crowd with out-
stretched palm, bank-notes and loose change
were pressed into her hand in lieu of the
pennies usually cast to the mendicants, for
the was but a beggar. She related her story
subsequently to a gentleman, who made in-
quiry into her life. She was educated for a
public singer, in her native city, Genoa.
Her father was a chorist of a popular
church. Four years ago she fell in love with
an American who was visiting Genoa, and
father opposed the attention of the tourist,
father opposed that was dissipated. It was the old
story from that point. She fled with her
lover, and a few months later he deserted
her. By selling her jewellery she paid an
emigrant passage to New York. Her baby
was born on board ship. She had searched
the streets for the man who had no hope left.
Her husband was dead, and he might repulse her.
Her baby was sick, and in devoting herself
to its care had lost her work. Now she was
a beggar. No one should give her name;
her friends also would not know her fate.

Insurance.

THE SECOND COLONIAL SEA AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

Agents in Hongkong, having been appointed
SPECIAL ATTENTION OF
SHIPPEES, to the low rates of premium
charged for all standard risks, besides which a
STORAGE OF THIRTY-THREE AND ONE-
THIRD PER CENT (34 1/3%) will be allowed
on risks to ports in China, Japan, the Philip-
pines, and the South. On risk to all other
ports the Brokerage will be FIFTEEN PER
CENT (15%) only.

SIGMUND & Co.,
Agents,
11022 Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

POSITIVE GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF SHANGHAI.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

ORIENTAL AND JAPAN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

NOTICE.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

MARINE RISKS.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

FIRE RISKS.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

PHENIX FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

TRANSATLANTIC FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

LONDON AND ORIENTAL STEAM TRANSPORT INSURANCE COMPANY.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

QUEEN INSURANCE COMPANY.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY AT HAMBURG.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

READ OFFICE—HONGKONG.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

THE QUEEN INSURANCE COMPANY.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

POLICIES granted at current rates on Marine Risks to all parts of the World.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

Business Announcements.

F. KRUPP'S CAST-IRON WORKS, ESSEN (GERMANY).

SOLE AGENTS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.
F. PELL,
1671, Hongkong, Shanghai, Canton (Germany).
JOHN KRUPP, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

NO DUBAY, NO INFECTION.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

JOYCE'S SPORTING AMMUNITION.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

FREDERICK JOYCE & CO.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

DIPLOMA OF MERIT.

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Business Announcements.

CAUTION—Merchants and Manufacturers.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

JAMES WHITEHEAD, CHARTERED BROKER.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

YARROW & HOLEY'S SMALL STEAMERS & STEAM LAUNCHES.

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Business Announcements.

PETROLEUM LAMPS—WRIGHT AND BUTLER.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

TRADE MARK.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

A LION RAMPANT GARDEN.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

E. L. AND PERRIN'S CELEBRATED ROSEBERRY SAUCE.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

CAUTION AGAINST FRAUD.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

E. L. AND PERRIN'S SAUCE.

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HONGKONG MARKETS.

As Reported by Chinese on the 4th September, 1874.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

COTTON GOODS.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

WOLLEN GOODS.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

METALS.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

SHIPPING IN THE CANTON WATERS.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

WHAMPOA.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

CANTON.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

MACAO.

Agents in Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

SWATOW.

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AMOY.

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FOOCHOW.

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SHANGHAI.

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YOKOHAMA.

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MANILA.

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